

*pendent.* The wisdom and necessity of this arrangement is too apparent to require enforcement; but it is useless for all practical purposes to acknowledge the justice of the theory, unless it be enforced by constitutional provision. As the matter now stands, the Executive is either forced to court the favor of the Legislature by making such appointments as its members may desire, and advocating such propositions as may be agreeable to them, or, if he prefers to exercise the functions of his office with a dignified and proper spirit of independence, as it was contemplated by the framers of the amended constitution that he should, he is constantly liable to be deprived of his salary. These alternatives are presented to him as matters now exist. A weak minded, or an avaricious man, would find no difficulty in sacrificing his independence, and with it, the interest of his State, if the preservation of his salary depended upon it. Public good, and the perpetuity of our political institutions, require that he should not be subjected to any such temptation. The framers of the Constitution of the United States, than whom, wiser or better men, never lived—with an eye to the public interest, have provided, in the first section of the second article of that instrument, that the compensation for the services of the National Executive, “shall neither be increased or diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected.” Such a provision as that contained in the Constitution of the United States, is proposed to be inserted in our State Constitution. The reasoning in favor of such a provision, so far as the Governor is concerned, is equally applicable to the Secretary of State, inasmuch as he, in case of the death, resignation or removal of the former, becomes *ex officio* Governor. It also applies with force to the Treasurer, (who has under his care the entire revenue of the State,) for a rigid and conscientious discharge of his duties may subject him to the censure of those who may have to determine upon his salary.

The same reasoning is applicable also to the proposed prohibition of an increase of salary during the time of service of these high functionaries, inasmuch as they might be tempted, by a hope of pecuniary reward, from the path of duty, and to encourage extravagance in the Legislature of the State. The Governor, by his messages, and the Treasurer by his estimates, it is well known, may have, and undoubtedly have had, great influence upon the Legislature of the State.

The committee have also prepared a bill to provide for the reduction of the expenses of the Legislature. This bill will make an annual saving of *seventeen thousand three hundred and fifty odd dollars.*

They have also prepared another bill, reducing the salaries of several other officers of the State, and providing for the bringing into the Treasury, annually, of a very large amount of money. It provides that the register of wills, clerks of the several county courts, and the register of the High Court of Chancery and the clerk of the Court of Appeals for the Western Shore of Mary-